REMARKS

The specification and claims have been amended to correct typographical errors. In particular, the formula for the "fiber filling percentage (%)" recited in the specification at page 8, lines 12-23, and in claim 7 indicates that "N" is the "Coarseness of yarn to be inserted in a reed wire (dtex)," but "N" clearly is the "Number of yarns to be inserted in a reed wire." Similarly, the formula for the "fiber filling percentage (%)" recited in the specification at page 8, lines 12-23, and in claim 7 indicates that the units of " ρ ," which is the "Density of fiber," is "(g/cm²)," but the units of " ρ " clearly should have read "(g/cm³)." The correction of the specification and claims is supported by the specification as a whole and especially by the discussion and use of the formula for the fiber filling percentage at page 8, line 12 et seq.

The scope of the claims has not changed as a result of the specification and claim amendments recited herein. Accordingly, no additional search or examination is required as a result of the specification and claim amendments.

The amended claims are patentable in view of the fact that (a) the claims in existence prior to the specification and claim amendments recited herein were held to properly define patentable subject matter and (b) the specification and claim amendments recited herein do not change the scope of the claims (but rather merely correct typographical errors).

The specification and claim amendments were not presented earlier because the typographical errors only recently came to the attention of applicants in further reviewing the claims after receipt of the Notice of Allowance.

If there are any questions regarding the specification and claim amendments recited herein, or if, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney. In re Appln. of Kitamura et al. Application No. 10/044,233

Date: June 25, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

John Kilyk, Jr., Reg. No. 30, 63 LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYEK, LTD. Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900 180 North Stetson Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780 (312) 616-5600 (telephone) (312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

7